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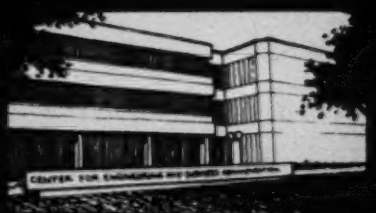


Economic Review And Outlook

by
A.M.M. Jamal and Ben L. Kedia

United States

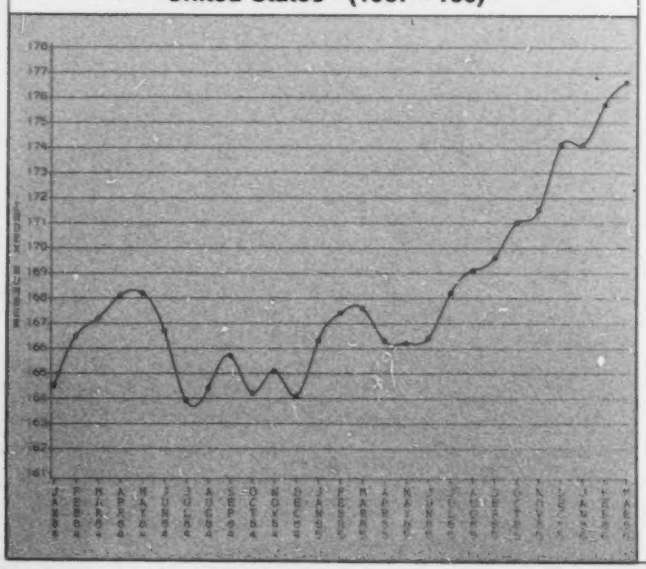
The U.S. economy is on track for moderate growth following a lackluster performance in 1985. Preliminary estimates indicate that the real Gross National Product (GNP) increased at an annual rate of 3.2 percent in the first quarter of 1986, following a 0.7 percent growth rate in the previous quarter. Most economists expect the U.S. economy to grow approximately 3 percent in 1986.

The Federal Reserve Board's Index of Industrial Production declined 0.5 percent in March, following a 0.7 percent drop in February. The biggest declines were in oil and gas drilling and auto and steel production. Falling interest rates, weaker dollar, and declining oil prices should all aid industrial production during the rest of this year.

Seasonally adjusted retail sales declined 0.8 percent in March, primarily due to reduced auto sales and falling gasoline prices. Retail sales should increase moderately since the growth in personal income will boost purchases. Total housing starts declined 2.4 percent in March, but the construction sector was still quite strong. Low mortgage rates should continue to stimulate construction activities throughout most of the United States.

Index of 12 Leading Indicators

United States (1967=100)



Louisiana Business Review

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The U.S. civilian unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted) was 7.1 percent in March compared with 7.2 percent in February. Total civilian employment increased 0.2 percent in March. Employment gains were mainly in the transportation trade and services sectors, which more than offset the losses in other sectors such as mining and manufacturing. Employment is expected to grow through most of 1986, and the unemployment rate should decline during the latter half of the year.

The U.S. Leading Economic Indicator rose 0.5 percent in March, following a revised 0.9 percent gain in February. These gains suggest that the national economy should continue to grow during the months ahead.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) declined 0.4 percent in March and the Producer Price Index (PPI) dropped 1.1 percent. This suggests that inflation is likely to be very moderate in 1986. Interest rates should either decline or be stable for the next few months. This will stimulate activities such as construction, sales of consumer durables, and long-term investments.

Louisiana

The Louisiana economy was virtually unchanged in March. The seasonally adjusted total employment dropped

United States and Louisiana

United States	Nov 85	Dec 85	Jan 86	Feb 86	Mar 86	Forecasts Apr 86	Forecasts May 86
• Employment & Unemployment •							
Employment Statistics (Mil)							
Civilian Labor Force	116.1	116.2	116.8	117.1	117.2	*117.2*	*117.2*
Employed	108.0	108.2	109.0	108.6	108.8	*109.1*	*109.4*
Unemployed	8.2	8.0	7.8	8.5	8.4	*8.1*	*7.8*
Unemployment Rate	7.0	6.9	6.7	7.3	7.2	*6.9*	*6.7*
• Price Indexes •							
Producer Price Indexes							
Finished Goods	296.7	297.2	296.2	292.3	288.1	*292.2*	*294.7*
Finished Consumer Goods	294.7	295.4	294.1	288.9	283.5	*288.4*	*291.4*
Consumer Price Indexes							
All Items	326.6	327.4	328.4	327.5	326.0	*328.0*	*329.8*
Food & Beverages	303.6	305.6	307.9	307.7	307.8	*308.3*	*309.1*
Housing	355.0	355.8	356.8	356.5	357.0	*358.0*	*359.0*
Transportation	323.2	324.0	323.9	319.2	309.6	*316.5*	*321.2*
Medical Care	413.0	414.7	418.2	422.3	425.8	*428.1*	*430.4*
• Production Indexes •							
Industrial Production Indexes							
Total Index	125.4	126.3	126.5	125.7	125.1	*126.1*	*129.3*
Durable Consumer Goods	115.5	116.9	116.7	117.6	na	*121.2*	*123.2*
Nondurable Consumer Goods	125.4	126.7	127.2	126.9	na	*126.3*	*129.0*
Business Equipment	141.7	142.2	142.4	141.3	na	*143.8*	*145.7*
Defense & Space Equipment	180.7	180.7	179.5	177.6	na	*182.9*	*185.0*
Construction Supplies	120.9	120.7	123.3	122.5	na	*126.4*	*128.3*
Business Supplies	142.7	144.9	144.7	na	na	*146.5*	*146.9*
Durable Goods Materials	121.7	121.9	122.3	120.8	na	*125.9*	*128.3*
Nondurable Goods Materials	113.0	114.6	114.4	113.8	na	*114.3*	*114.4*
Energy Materials	102.5	105.8	104.0	104.0	na	*104.2*	*104.3*
• Finance & Business Activity •							
Finance ($ Bil)							
Credit Union Deposits	65.1	65.3	65.4	51.0	51.2	*56.3*	*59.7*
Saving & Loans Deposits	744.5	745.6	749.0	702.0	696.7	*768.5*	*773.7*
Commercial Bank Deposits	1,523.0	1,540.6	1,588.2	1,547.2	1,552.5	*1,595.4*	*1,607.0*
Business Activity							
Total Retail Trade Sales	118,060	138,646	105,642	99,807	na	*122,902*	*128,960*
Index of 12 Leading indicators	171.5	174.1	174.1	175.7	176.6	*178.2*	*180.0*

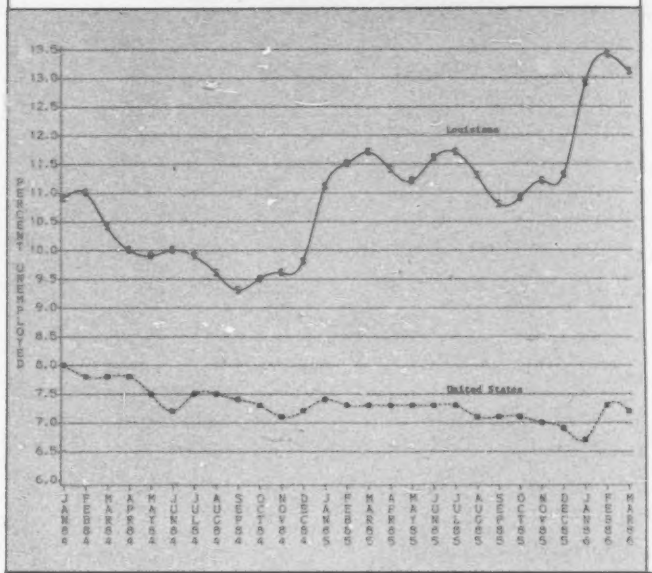
Louisiana	Nov 85	Dec 85	Jan 86	Feb 86	Mar 86	Forecasts Apr 86	Forecasts May 86
• Oil & Gas Activity •							
Fuel Consumption (Gals)							
Gasoline	132,979,327	221,697,102	180,973,846	136,513,237	na	*164,279,203*	*163,916,061*
Highway Diesel	24,916,931	36,914,413	38,111,776	29,559,223	na	*22,958,384*	*27,632,361*
Total Fuel Consumption	174,285,420	271,094,697	238,369,690	173,401,100	na	*205,821,948*	*205,805,690*
Crude Oil Refined (Bbl Daily Avg)							
Total	1,867,273	1,966,561	1,887,122	1,831,218	na	*1,784,193*	*1,783,651*
Crude Oil Unloaded (Bbl)							
LOOP Total	20,767,788	17,233,921	18,451,102	13,288,436	17,411,714	*16,737,574*	*16,883,571*
Drilling Rigs							
Permits Issued	298	434	313	284	242	*296*	*344*
Wildcats Issued	34	40	26	23	27	*34*	*39*
Offshore Rigs	16	14	16	2	7	*11*	*11*
Active Rigs	208	227	183	194	130	*149*	*161*
Gas Activity Report (mcf)							
Field Intake	53,898,477	55,969,186	57,080,844	na	na	*49,128,278*	*48,521,761*
Pipeline & Other Intake	50,420,730	67,999,054	71,662,901	na	na	*57,534,140*	*55,650,886*
Sales to Pipelines	84,031,299	102,551,837	107,132,532	na	na	*87,169,139*	*84,865,318*

Louisiana

Louisiana	Nov 85	Dec 85	Jan 86	Feb 86	Mar 86	Forecasts Apr 86	Forecasts May 86
• Employment & Unemployment •							
Employment Statistics							
Total Civilian Labor Force (000)	1,987.5	1,963.0	1,950.2	1,969.8	1,975.7	*1,982.5*	*2,008.4*
Total Employed (000)	1,763.1	1,740.2	1,699.1	1,706.1	1,717.4	*1,743.4*	*1,765.4*
Non-Agricultural Employment (000)							
Non-Agricultural	1,594.5	1,600.4	1,575.3	1,570.7	1,569.6	*1,571.8*	*1,573.4*
Wholesale and Retail Trade	387.6	397.3	385.0	383.4	383.9	*384.9*	*386.3*
Government	328.2	327.5	325.3	329.0	329.1	*330.2*	*330.0*
Services	317.3	320.9	320.7	321.7	321.6	*322.3*	*321.6*
Manufacturing	172.9	173.5	170.0	168.6	168.1	*167.7*	*167.3*
Transportation & Public Utilities	113.8	114.5	112.4	110.8	111.5	*110.5*	*110.3*
Construction	112.9	100.3	96.7	95.4	99.1	*102.0*	*104.9*
Finance, Insurance, And Real Estate	84.4	85.9	85.5	85.2	85.2	*86.2*	*86.1*
Mining	77.4	80.5	79.7	76.6	71.1	*71.0*	*70.9*
Wage Statistics							
Average Weekly Mfg Hours	42.3	42.7	41.5	40.7	41.1	*42.2*	*42.2*
Average Weekly Mfg Earnings	441.19	448.35	432.85	432.64	434.43	*448.26*	*449.98*
Unemployment Statistics							
Total Unemployed (000)	224.4	222.8	251.1	263.7	258.3	*249.19*	*243.0*
Unemployment Rate	11.2	11.3	12.9	13.4	13.1	*12.5*	*12.1*
Unemployment Benefits (000 Weeks)	239	280	335	294	304	*285*	*269*
Unemployment Benefits ($ Mil)	34.7	40.7	48.2	41.8	43.3	*41.0*	*39.7*
New Claims (000)	39.3	32.6	42.7	34.9	41.9	*35.4*	*33.4*
Exhaustions (000)	6.0	7.1	8.6	7.7	9.3	*8.9*	*8.6*
• General Business Activity •							
Revenue Collections							
Alcoholic Beverages	2,037,634	3,073,956	5,861,989	2,481,133	1,495,366	*3,648,665*	*3,845,114*
Corporation Franchise Tax	15,623,227	14,018,041	4,573,166	7,949,780	6,732,400	*8,737,996*	*54,803,648*
Corporation Income Tax	14,529,780	23,425,518	29,019,279	4,469,273	3,087,936	*27,860,135*	*34,193,507*
Individual Income Tax	37,454,518	41,238,422	70,419,216	22,376,942	-9,343,471	*62,510,391*	*73,762,043*
General Severance Tax	50,445,584	63,914,127	58,685,014	59,880,338	67,930,905	*58,353,474*	*53,399,137*
Gasoline Tax	16,057,834	19,702,754	32,060,580	26,871,526	20,171,767	*22,533,713*	*24,284,919*
Special Fuels	2,549,793	4,103,882	6,055,353	6,168,232	4,759,797	*5,769,179*	*5,885,731*
General Sales Tax	81,232,373	81,681,012	106,311,166	79,170,672	72,733,432	*94,584,496*	*87,146,592*
Tobacco	6,314,730	6,666,208	7,758,766	6,337,552	5,782,733	*6,618,247*	*7,031,552*
Motor Vehicle Tax	9,508,289	9,751,145	12,531,746	9,906,000	10,193,479	*11,864,122*	*11,921,786*
Royalties, Rentals, and Bonuses	31,873,251	33,007,090	35,689,824	37,703,921	39,741,325	*37,797,319*	*37,671,453*
Other Taxes	14,231,154	8,837,536	10,400,211	14,918,879	7,543,953	*11,843,290*	*13,029,783*
Total Taxes	281,858,167	309,419,690	379,366,310	278,234,248	231,829,622	*349,682,955*	*417,371,020*
Corporation Filings							
Domestic Charters	678	774	1,136	1,001	1,098	*843*	*839*
Dissolutions	119	179	196	164	215	*341*	*355*
Retail Trade							
Total Retail Sales	1,860	2,134	1,616	1,524	na	*1,868*	*1,990*
Total Department Sales	219	328	133	134	na	*193*	*202*
Value of Construction Contracts ($ Mil)							
Residential	76	81	97	92	105	*103*	*111*
Non-Residential	100	93	100	110	81	*113*	*113*
Non-Building	175	95	64	64	94	*85*	*89*
Number of Building Permits							
Residential Building	877	1,171	947	825	1,098	*969*	*933*
Commercial & Industrial	741	781	828	911	1,020	*982*	*927*
Value of Building Permits							
Residential Building	42,260,786	46,328,888	49,994,421	39,831,634	53,775,021	*47,135,380*	*50,221,227*
Commercial & Industrial	39,642,415	63,143,674	113,061,593	81,260,146	71,698,740	*84,780,450*	*83,967,022*
New Car/Truck Sales							
Total New Cars	9,792	9,801	14,043	10,025	10,171	*12,039*	*13,253*
Total New Trucks	5,328	5,089	7,152	5,257	5,216	*6,869*	*6,889*

Unemployment Rate

Louisiana State/United States



Mining employment declined sharply due to cutbacks in oil and gas extraction. Manufacturing employment declined due to slight decreases in lumber production, primary metals, organic chemicals, etc. Construction employment was up significantly in March. Transportation employment was higher due to increased port activities. Employment in retail trade increased mainly due to more business for food stores and eating and drinking places.

The Louisiana Economic Indicator (LEI) declined 1.0 percent in March, primarily due to drops in the indices for mining, construction, and manufacturing. The overall outlook suggests that the Louisiana economy will be inhibited until the end of 1986.

Total taxes reported in March were 16.7 percent lower than in February and 16.8 percent less than in March 1985. Total taxes for the current twelve months compared with the prior twelve months increased by 3.2 percent. Most of the recent gains are due to increases in corporation franchise tax, fuels tax,and general sales tax rate since July 1984.

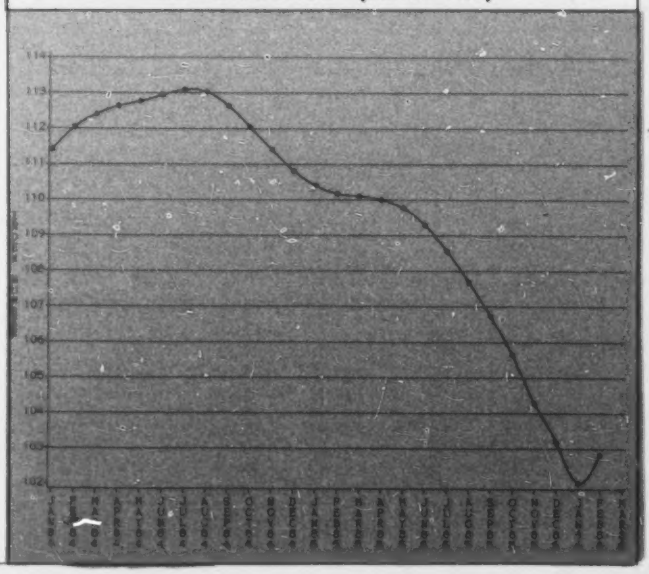
	Unemployment Rate						Leading Indicators					
	Louisiana			United States			Louisiana 1976=100			United States 1967=100		
Month	1984	1985	1986	1984	1985	1986	1984	1985	1986	1984	1985	1986
Jan	10.9	**11.1**	12.9	8.0	**7.4**	6.7	111.40	**110.40**	102.04	164.5	**166.3**	174.1
Feb	11.0	**11.5**	13.4	7.8	**7.3**	7.3	112.03	**110.17**	102.83	166.5	**167.4**	175.7
Mar	10.4	**11.7**	13.1	7.8	**7.3**	7.2	112.40	**110.10**	99.79	167.2	**167.6**	176.6
Apr	10.0	**11.4**	na	7.8	**7.3**	7.1	112.63	**110.00**	na	168.1	**166.3**	na
May	9.9	**11.2**		7.5	**7.3**	na	112.76	**109.77**		168.2	**166.2**	
Jun	10.0	**11.6**		7.2	**7.3**		112.94	**109.29**		166.7	**166.4**	
Jul	9.9	**11.7**		7.5	**7.3**		113.09	**108.56**		163.9	**168.2**	
Aug	9.6	**11.3**		7.5	**7.1**		113.03	**107.69**		164.4	**169.1**	
Sep	9.3	**10.8**		7.4	**7.1**		112.64	**106.72**		165.7	**169.6**	
Oct	9.5	**10.9**		7.3	**7.1**		112.04	**105.64**		164.2	**171.0**	
Nov	9.6	**11.2**		7.1	**7.0**		111.41	**104.28**		165.1	**171.5**	
Dec	9.8	**11.3**		7.2	**6.9**		110.81	**103.20**		164.1	**174.1**	

slightly since February and it was 1.6 percent below the March 1985 level. The unemployment rate, which is also seasonaliy adjusted, was 12.5 percent, unchanged since February. Louisiana had the highest unemployment rate (13.1 percent unadjusted) in the nation during March. Among the neighboring states, Texas with an 8.8 percent unemployment rate Arkansas with a 9.5 percent unemployment rate, and Mississippi with an 11.2 percent unemployment rate were ranked 17, 10, and 5 respectively in February. Alabama and Tennessee were ranked 14 and 19 in order of unemployment. This means that the relative unemployment situation in Arkansas, Alabama, and Tennessee had improved in February while the situation became worse in Texas.

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment dropped by 1,100 in March, and it was 23,500 below the level of March 1985. Most of the decline in employment was in the mining and manufacturing sector, which offset the gains in construction, transportation, and retail trade.

Leading Economic Indicator

Louisiana State (1976=100)



Louisiana's Metropolitan Areas

	New Orleans		Forecasts		Baton Rouge		Forecasts	
	Feb 86	Mar 86	Apr 86	May 86	Feb 86	Mar 86	Apr 86	May 86
• Employment & Unemployment •								
Employment & Wage Statistics								
Total Civilian Labor Force (000)	593.5	593.0	*598.4*	*602.8*	259.1	258.4	*261.9*	*264.5*
Total Employed (000)	527	528	*547*	*549*	227	229	*232*	*234*
Average Weekly Mfg Earnings	426.70	422.68	*434.01*	*442.87*	525.68	513.24	*534.15*	*541.52*
Average Weekly Mfg Hours	39.4	39.8	*40.8*	*41.3*	42.6	42.0	*43.6*	*43.9*
Unemployment Statistics								
Total Unemployed (000)	66.9	65.0	*51.4*	*53.8*	31.7	29.8	*29.9*	*30.5*
Unemployment Rate	11.3	11.0	*8.6*	*9.1*	12.2	11.5	*11.4*	*11.5*
• General Business Activity •								
Revenue Collections								
Retail Sales Tax-State	20,593,011	na	*24,856,971*	*22,721,106*	8,879,332	na	*9,979,369*	*10,049,461*
Severance Tax	5,824,590	na	*5,340,804*	*5,363,916*	1,632,751	na	*2,958,756*	*3,076,004*
Minimum Royalty	3,645,703	4,511,714	*3,846,121*	*3,859,131*	240,544	352,050	*400,389*	*403,292*
Retail Trade								
Department Store Sales ($ 000)	37,832	na	*54,150*	*55,389*	21,244	na	*29,332*	*30,995*
Number of Department Stores	44	na	*45*	*45*	23	na	*22*	*22*
Airport Activity								
Passengers	526,310	271,132	*429,585*	*488,949*	28,656	31,640	*31,465*	*32,372*
Cargo (Tons)	3,234	3,357	*3,533*	*3,690*	275	298	*218*	*192*
Port Activity								
Port Total (000 Tons)	1,559	1,585	*1,578*	*1,578*	831	334	*348*	*352*
Value of Construction Contracts ($ Mil)								
Residential	26.3	37.2	*34.4*	*34.5*	12.5	12.7	*15.4*	*16.4*
Non-Residential	47.7	26.5	*49.2*	*39.4*	22.4	18.6	*23.6*	*23.8*
Number of Building Permits								
Residential Building	328	503	*349*	*335*	106	158	*132*	*125*
Commercial & Industrial	373	436	*383*	*306*	92	105	*149*	*149*
Value of Building Permits								
Residential Building	15,448,037	22,852,251	*16,224,430*	*15,790,840*	6,280,611	8,316,729	*7,982,515*	*7,682,464*
Commercial & Industrial	37,617,091	44,239,125	*37,349,848*	*37,113,393*	14,792,192	9,458,775	*18,641,862*	*18,594,792*
New Car/Truck Sales								
Total New Cars	3,111	3,311	*3,641*	*4,178*	1,465	1,429	*1,756*	*1,910*
Total New Trucks	1,161	1,325	*1,494*	*1,564*	699	741	*894*	*949*

	Jan 86	Feb 86	Mar 86	Apr 86
		• Gas Activity •		
Gas Activity Report (MCF)				
Field Intake	7,085,175	5,414,279	*4,636,835*	*4,390,067*
Pipeline & Other Intake	-19,419,231	17,899,040	*16,881,943*	*16,178,992*
Sales to Pipelines	22,569,737	20,470,649	*19,131,959*	*18,249,494*

Leading Indicators

Month	New Orleans			Baton Rouge			Shreveport		
	1984	1985	1986	1984	1985	1986	1984	1985	1986
Jan	105.64	**97.94**	95.89	103.21	**98.38**	97.71	108.90	**104.00**	92.40
Feb	105.89	**97.82**	95.01	103.71	**98.36**	97.41	109.12	**103.45**	91.64
Mar	105.91	**97.82**	94.18	103.76	**98.46**	97.33	108.70	**102.89**	89.51
Apr	105.58	**97.90**	na	103.36	**98.77**	na	107.63	**102.44**	na
May	104.89	**98.02**		102.51	**99.26**		106.10	**102.26**	
Jun	103.95	**98.15**		101.45	**99.74**		104.65	**102.18**	
Jul	102.82	**98.25**		100.44	**99.97**		103.56	**101.97**	
Aug	101.59	**98.38**		99.58	**99.91**		103.01	**101.48**	
Sep	100.34	**98.45**		98.97	**99.60**		103.00	**100.45**	
Oct	99.33	**98.24**		98.59	**99.10**		103.35	**98.71**	
Nov	98.63	**97.65**		98.47	**98.56**		103.88	**96.71**	
Dec	98.20	**96.80**		98.42	**98.09**		104.14	**94.38**	

Table 1

Data on Louisiana Metropolitan Areas

State/Metro Areas	Unemployment Rate 03/86 Unadjusted	Seasonally Adjusted	Unemployment Rate 02/86 Unadjusted	Seasonally Adjusted	Unemployment Rate 03/85 Unadjusted	Seasonally Adjusted	Ranking by Unadjusted Unemployment Rates Among 51 States and 262 Metro Areas 02/86*	% Change in Number of Persons Employed 03/85-03/86
Louisiana	13.1%	12.5%	13.5%	12.5%	11.7%	11.1%	1**	-1.6%
New Orleans	11.0%	10.9%	11.3%	11.0%	11.0%	10.9%	39	-2.7%
Baton Rouge	11.5%	11.7%	12.2%	11.8%	9.6%	9.8%	26	-1.8%
Houma/Thibodaux	15.0%	na	14.7%	na	12.1%	na	13	-7.0%
Lafayette	11.5%	11.0%	10.8%	10.6%	9.0%	8.6%	44	-0.2%
Lake Charles	15.4%	14.6%	15.5%	14.4%	16.2%	15.4%	8	-2.3%
Alexandria	11.1%	11.0%	11.2%	10.1%	10.6%	10.4%	41	0.0%
Shreveport	12.7%	12.4%	13.1%	12.2%	8.6%	8.4%	20	-4.0%
Monroe	10.9%	10.7%	11.6%	10.9%	9.7%	9.4%	32	1.0%

*Ranked from highest unemployment rate to lowest unemploymentrate. The metropolitan area with the highest unemployment rate is ranked number 1 and the area with the lowest unemployment rate is ranked number 262.

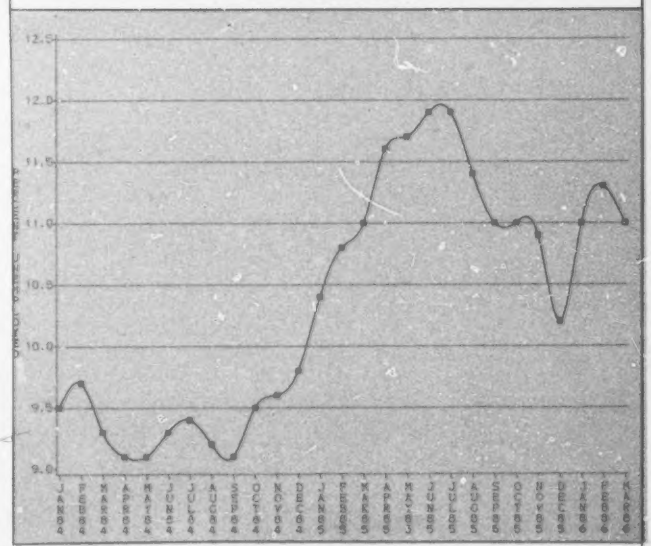
**Louisiana 's rank among the 51 states and the District of Columbia.

The taxes collected during the fiscal year ending June 1986 are expected to drop, primarily because severance tax and royalties rentals and bonuses related to oil and gas drilling are declining. If the price of oil settles at $15 per barrel, as generally expected, the revenues from oil and gas activities will decline over $500 million during 1986-87, causing severe strains to the state budget.

New car and truck sales increased slightly in March. The value of construction contracts, which is another indicator of the state economy, increased due to gains in residential building and non-building construction. However nonresidential building construction experienced declines in March. The general outlook suggests that some of the key sectors of the Louisiana economy, such as oil and gas extraction and manufacturing, are likely to be depressed in the coming months. Wholesale and retail trade, services, and finance, insurance, and real estate, are likely to be more stable.

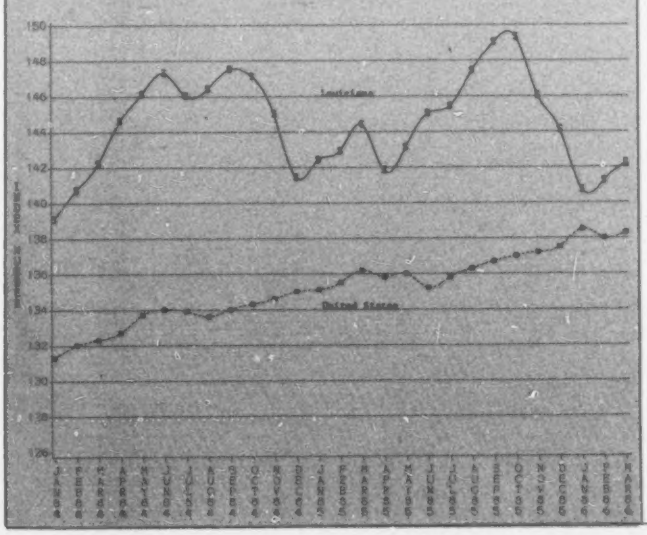
Unemployment Rate

New Orleans



Total Employment Indices

Louisiana State/United States (1970=100)



New Orleans

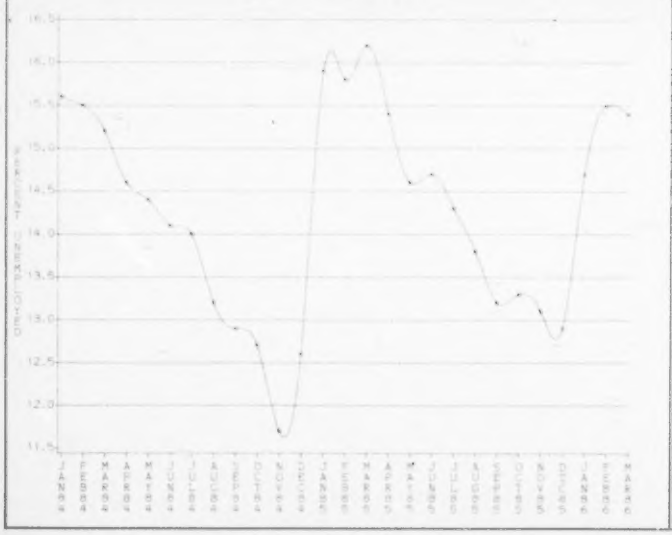
The New Orleans economy was stagnant in March. The seasonally adjusted total employment declined slightly in the current month, and it was 2.7 percent below the level of a year ago. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 10.9 percent, compared with 11 percent in February. Only 38 metropolitan areas out of a total of 262 in the United

Louisiana's Metropolitan Areas

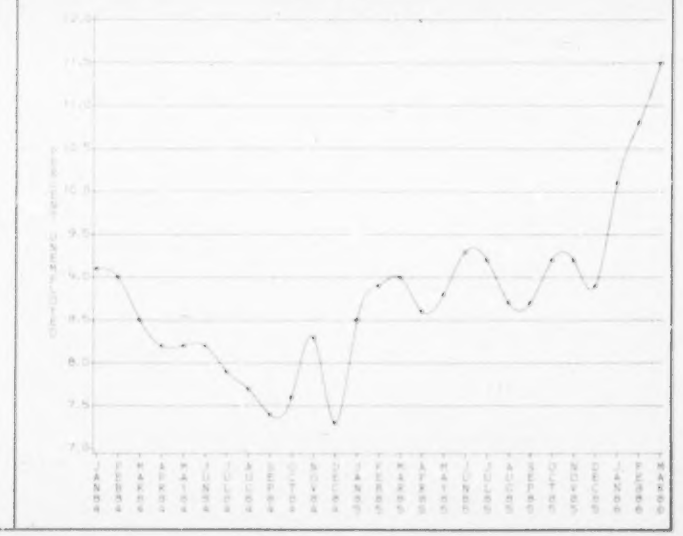
	Lake Charles				Lafayette			
			Forecasts				Forecasts	
	Feb 86	Mar 86	Apr 86	May 86	Feb 86	Mar 86	Apr 86	May 86
• Employment & Unemployment •								
Employment & Wage Statistics								
Total Civilian Labor Force (000)	73.8	74.0	*74.0*	*74.0*	111.8	112.6	*113.3*	*114.0*
Total Employed (000)	62.4	62.6	*63.0*	*63.3*	99.7	99.6	*100.5*	*101.3*
Unemployment Statistics								
Total Unemployed (000)	11.4	11.4	*11.0*	*10.7*	12.1	13.0	*12.8*	*12.7*
Unemployment Rate	15.5	15.4	*14.9*	*14.5*	0.8	11.5	*11.3*	*11.1*
• General Business Activity •								
Revenue Collections								
Retail Sales Tax-State	2,723,422	na	*2,820,690*	*2,800,795*	4,000,161	na	*4,445,322*	*4,077,740*
Severance Tax	1,072,957	na	*1,583,270*	*1,603,477*	1,189,858	na	*786,946*	*751,795*
Minumum Royalty	29,265	15,727	*18,459*	*20,291*	22,513	7,377	*9,087*	*6,510*
Airport Activity								
Passengers	2,300	2,400	*2,571*	*2,687*	19,247	19,429	*18,425*	*19,216*
Cargo	7,550	8,500	*9,227*	*9,710*	39,464	46,424	*35,824*	*31,081*
Value of Construction Contracts ($ Mil)								
Residential	1.8	1.6	*1.7*	*1.6*	3.4	3.7	*4.1*	*4.0*
Non-Residential	1.4	3.9	*1.8*	*1.8*	1.2	1.5	*2.6*	*2.0*
Number of Building Permits								
Residential Building	30	33	*23*	*22*	27	27	*34*	*23*
Commercial & Industrial	53	68	*60*	*59*	196	192	*190*	*191*
Value of Building Permits								
Residential Building	1,505,059	1,590,293	*1,227,725*	*1,198,979*	1,826,260	1,995,765	*2,224,977*	*1,733,128*
Commercial & Industrial	1,131,428	6,166,357	*1,664,176*	*1,515,670*	3,905,828	2,537,433	*5,581,937*	*5,513,305*
New Car/Trucks Sales								
Total New Cars	435	370	*525*	*552*	497	427	*583*	*647*
Total New Trucks	317	252	*380*	*384*	271	243	*400*	*405*
Port Activity (000 Tons)								
Port Total	2,062.3	2,669.7	*2,310.2*	*2,342.1*				
	Jan 86	*Feb 86*	*Mar 86*	*Apr 86*	*Jan 86*	*Feb 86*	*Mar 86*	*Apr 86*
• Gas Activity •								
Gas Activity Report (MCF)								
Field Intake	2,984,231	2,769,418	*2,622,709*	*2,510,844*	24,276,303	22,805,185	*22,096,759*	*21,679,740*
Pipeline & Other Intake	7,888,991	7,972,057	*8,045,665*	*8,111,602*	26,793,425	19,950,682	*17,771,188*	*16,927,996*
Sales to Pipelines	5,453,507	5,262,356	*5,104,814*	*4,970,858*	44,676,652	37,884,596	*35,132,988*	*33,840,895*

Unemployment Rate

Lake Charles



Lafayette



States had a higher unemployment rate than New Orleans in February (Table 1, Column 8). This represents an improvement in the relative unemployment rate since January. Total nonagricultural employment dropped by 500 in March and was 12,600 below the level of a year ago. All the major sectors of the economy except construction, water transportation, and banking were unchanged or had declining employment in March.

The New Orleans Leading Indicator decreased 0.9 percent in March, primarily due to a decline in the manufacturing index. This suggests that the metropolitan economy will be inhibited during the next several months.

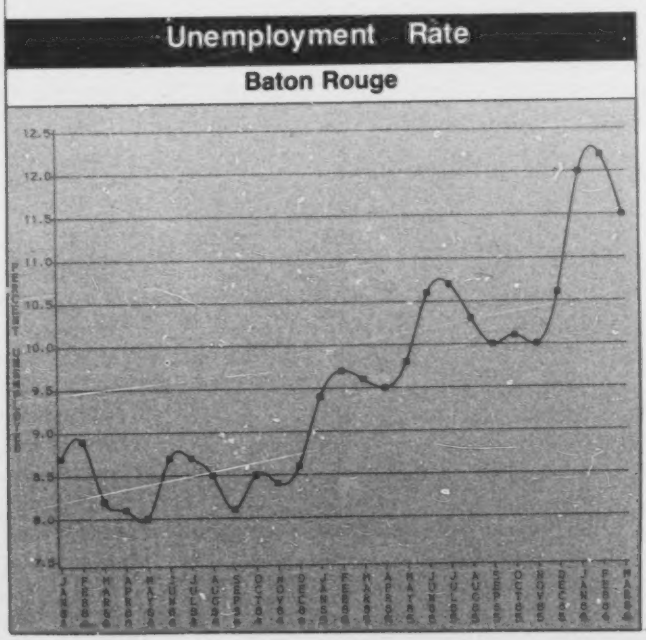
Retail sales taxes reported in February decreased 20.3 percent since the prior month and they were 11.9 percent below the level of February 1985. Other indicators of the metropolitan economy, such as construction, decreased in March but airport activities increased. This indicates that the major sectors of the economy declined in March and the metropolitan economy is unlikely to improve significantly during the next few months.

Baton Rouge

The Baton Rouge economy was showing signs of improvement in March. The seasonally adjusted total employment increased slightly since the previous month but it was 1.8 percent below the level of March 1985. The unemployment rate, also seasonally adjusted, was 11.7 percent, compared with 11.8 percent in February. Only 25 metropolitan areas out of 262 in the United States had a higher unemployment rate than Baton Rouge in February (Table 1, Column 8). Total nonagricultural employment increased by 1,300 workers since February. The gains in employment were mainly in construction, transportation, public utilities, retail trade, and services. However, employment decreased by 3,200 since March 1985.

The Baton Rouge Leading Indicator declined slightly in March following declines of the past few months. This suggests that the metropolitan economy will be sluggish during the next several months.

Retail sales taxes reported in February decreased 16.6 percent compared to the previous month but they were 6.3 percent higher than in February 1985. Other indicators of the metropolitan economy, such as the value of construction contracts and the cargo handled at the port, decreased in March. This indicates that the metropolitan economy is still weak. The recent trend in the leading indicator also does not suggest an optimistic outlook for the local economy in the coming months.



Lake Charles

The Lake Charles economy declined in March. The seasonally adjusted total employment decreased 0.3 percent since February and it was 2.3 percent below the level of a year ago. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 14.6 percent, compared with 14.4 percent in February. Lake Charles had the eight highest unemployment rate among the 262 metropolitan areas of the United States in February (Table 1, Column 8).

Total nonagricultural employment was unchanged in March. Employment gains in the retail trade and the government sector were offset by losses in construction, finance, and services. Employment dropped by 600 during the past twelve months.

Retail sales taxes reported in February decreased 3.9 percent, but they were 31.8 percent above the taxes of February 1985. The value of construction contracts increased in March. Other indicators of the local economy, such as port activities, also increased. The outlook suggests that the economy of Lake Charles will falter during the next several months, although certain sectors, such as trade and construction, should be more stable.

Lafayette

The Lafayette economy again declined in March. The seasonally adjusted total employment fell 0.8 percent in the current month, and it was 0.2 percent below the level of a year ago. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 11 percent, compared to 10.6 percent in February. Only 43 metropolitan areas out of 262 in the United States had a higher unemployment rate than Lafayette in February (Table 1, Column 8). Total nonagricultural employment decreased by 700 workers in March. All the major sectors of the economy except nondurables manufacturing and the government sector experienced declines or were unchanged.

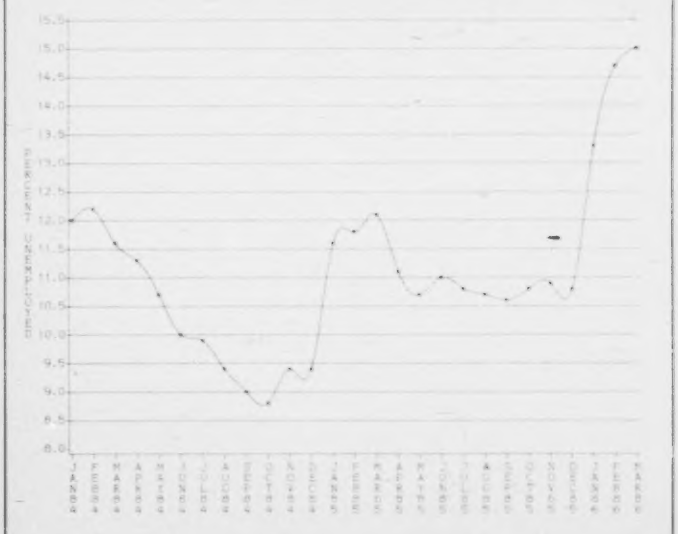
Louisiana's Metropolitan Areas

	Houma				Alexandria			
			Forecasts				Forecasts	
	Feb 86	Mar 86	Apr 86	May 86	Feb 86	Mar 86	Apr 86	May 86
• Employment & Unemployment •								
Employment & Wage Statistics								
Total Civilian Labor Force (000)	77.4	76.7	*78.5*	*79.6*	58.2	58.9	*58.6*	*58.3*
Total Employed (000)	66.0	65.2	*67.9*	*70.6*	51.7	52.3	*52.8*	*53.2*
Unemployment Statistics								
Total Unemployed (000)	11.4	11.5	*10.6*	*9.0*	6.5	6.6	*5.8*	*5.1*
Unemployment Rate	14.7	15.0	*13.5*	*11.3*	11.2	11.1	*9.9*	*8.7*
• General Business Activity •								
Revenue Collections								
Retail Sales Tax-State	1,892,861	na	*1,953,840*	*1,864,087*	1,583,587	na	*1,920,496*	*1,936,122*
Severance Tax	7,914,396	na	*6,992,815*	*6,914,531*	153,783	na	*136,027*	*134,652*
Minimum Royalty	3,667,975	6,008,805	*4,748,442*	*4,682,021*	104	100	*117*	*117*
Airport Activity								
Passengers					5,370	6,289	*6,055*	*6,036*
Cargo					4,922	4,962	*3,760*	*2,984*
Value of Construction Contracts ($ Mil)								
Residential	3.4	3.2	*3.1*	*3.1*	3.2	7.9	*4.1*	*4.1*
Non-Residential	4.3	1.6	*1.0*	*1.0*	1.5	0.8	*3.2*	*3.2*
Number of Building Permits								
Residential Building	53	52	*43*	*39*	15	73	*24*	*24*
Commercial & Industrial	20	20	*17*	*16*	14	23	*19*	*19*
Value of Building Permits								
Residential Building	2,416,900	2,497,480	*2,128,283*	*1,962,861*	1,133,000	2,799,755	*1,277,271*	*1,282,414*
Commercial & Industrial	287,900	363,708	*451,424*	*426,505*	1,910,084	979,461	*1,777,177*	*1,590,710*
New Car/Truck Sales								
Total New Cars	435	330	*458*	*459*	321	276	*360*	*360*
Total New Trucks	340	230	*312*	*314*	198	187	*226*	*226*

	Jan 86	*Feb 86*	*Mar 86*	*Apr 86*
• Gas Activity •				
Gas Activity Report (MCF)				
Field Intake	8,565,339	7,789,513	*7,711,240*	*7,529,338*
Pipeline & Other Intake	15,403,497	14,188,167	*13,469,122*	*13,042,959*
Sales to Pipelines	21,387,886	19,184,887	*18,164,321*	*17,653,424*

Unemployment Rate

Houma



Alexandria

Employment decreased by 1,300 compared to March 1985.

Retail sales taxes reported in February decreased 12.9 percent since January , but they were 1.8 percent above the level of a year ago. The value of construction contracts, which is another indicator of the local economy, increased in March, but it had dropped sharply since a year ago. The Lafayette economy is suffering from the declines in the mining sector. Since the outlook for this industry is not optimistic, the local economy will continue to face uncertainties in the near future.

Houma/Thibodaux

The Houma/Thibodaux economy declined in March. Total employment dropped 7 percent since March 1985. The unemployment rate, not seasonally adjusted, was 15 percent, compared with 14.7 percent in February. Only 12 metropolitan areas out of a total of 262 in the United States had a higher unemployment rate than Houma/Thibodaux in February (Table 1, Column 8). Total nonagricultural employment decreased by 700 workers in March. Employment declined in all the major sectors of the economy except construction and finance, insurance, and real estate. Employment dropped by 4,500 workers since March 1985.

Retail sales taxes reported in February dropped 15.5 percent since January but they were 18.2 percent above the level of a year ago. The value of construction contracts decreased 37.7 percent since the prior month and was 25 percent below the level of a year ago. The outlook suggests that the metropolitan economy will be stagnant during the next few months.

Alexandria

The metropolitan economy declined in March. The seasonally adjusted total employment dropped 0.6 percent since February and was unchanged since March 1985. The unemployment rate, also seasonally adjusted, was 11.0 percent compared with 10.1 percent in February. Out of a total of 262 metropolitan areas in the United States, only 40 had a higher unemployment rate than Alexandria in February (Table 1, Column 8).

Total nonagricultural employment increased by 100 workers since February. The gain in employment was mainly in the construction and services sectors. Employment in March increased by 600 compared to a year ago.

Retail sales taxes reported in February decreased 13.9 percent since the prior month, but increased 18.5 percent since February 1985. The value of construction contracts, which is another indicator of the local economy, increased significantly in March, but it was below the level of March 1985. The Alexandria economy should be stable during the next few months.

Shreveport

The Shreveport economy declined in March. The seasonally adjusted total employment fell slightly since the prior month and decreased 4 percent since March 1985. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 12.4 percent compared to 12.2 percent in February. Only 19 metropolitan areas out of a total of 262 had a higher unemployment rate than Shreveport in February (Table 1, Column 8). Total nonagricultural employment increased by 400 workers in March. Employment increased primarily in the construction and service sectors.

The Shreveport Leading Indicator declined 1.2 percent, continuing the declines since January 1985. This suggests that the metropolitan economy will experience uncertainties for the next several months.

Retail sales reported in February were 20.7 percent lower than in the previous month but they were 9.3 percent above the level of a year ago. The value of construction contracts, which is another indicator of the Shreveport economy, increased in March. The metropolitan economy is stabilizing from the losses in manufacturing and should improve slowly during the coming months.

Monroe

The metropolitan economy improved moderately in March. The seasonally adjusted total employment increased 1.2 percent since February and was 1.0 percent above the level of a year ago. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 10.7 percent, compared with 10.9 percent in February. Out of a total of 262 metropolitan areas in the United States, only 31 had a higher unemployment rate than Monroe in February (Table 1, Column 8). Total nonagricultural employment increased by 1,400 in March. The gain in employment was primarily in the construction and the government sector.

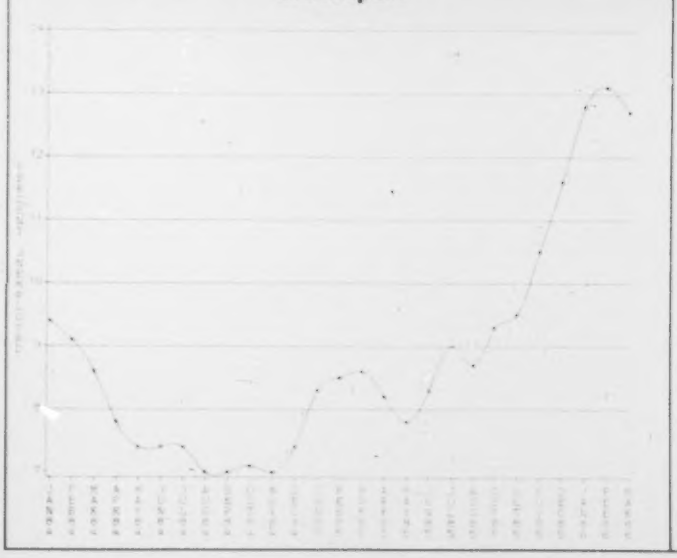
Retail sales taxes reported in February decreased 26.1 percent compared to the previous month but increased 11.2 percent compared with February 1985. Other business indicators, such as the value of construction contracts and the number of airline passengers, increased in March. The outlook suggests the metropolitan economy will experience moderate growth during the next few months.

Louisiana's Metropolitan Areas

	Shreveport				Monroe			
			Forecasts				Forecasts	
	Feb 86	Mar 86	Apr 86	May 86	Feb 86	Mar 86	Apr 86	May 86
• Employment & Unemployment •								
Employment & Wage Statistics								
Total Civilian Labor Force (000)	166.9	167.6	*166.7*	*166.2*	67.7	68.8	*68.4*	*68.2*
Total Employed (000)	145.1	146.3	*147.0*	*147.7*	59.8	61.3	*61.5*	*61.7*
Average Weekly Mfg Earnings	378.51	405.28	*424.69*	*437.55*				
Average Weekly Mfg Hours	37.0	38.2	*39.6*	*40.1*				
Unemployment Statistics								
Total Unemployed (000)	21.8	21.3	*19.7*	*18.5*	7.9	7.5	*6.9*	*6.7*
Unemployment Rate	13.1	12.7	*11.8*	*11.1*	11.6	10.9	*10.1*	*9.8*
• General Business Activity •								
Revenue Collections								
Retail Sales Tax-State	5,691,015	na	*7,033,962*	*6,422,968*	2,681,222	na	*3,239,206*	*3,282,080*
Severance Tax	2,534,749	na	*2,247,667*	*2,028,453*	244,633	na	*167,325*	*166,922*
Minimum Royalty	86,026	87,201	*95,768*	*91,123*	1,639	2,360	*3,466*	*3,554*
Airport Activity								
Passengers	22,204	26,834	*26,352*	*27,027*	7,399	8,400	*8,216*	*8,811*
Cargo	2,481,079	2,633,841	*3,012,973*	*3,178,766*	24,618	23,668	*21,275*	*23,208*
Value of Construction Contracts ($ Mil)								
Residential	7.4	7.9	*10.6*	*11.9*	3.6	4.7	*5.1*	*5.2*
Non-Residential	7.3	8.3	*11.6*	*11.6*	2.2	2.5	*2.8*	*2.8*
Number of Building Permits								
Residential Building	159	86	*120*	*116*	32	90	*56*	*55*
Commercial & Industrial	88	77	*74*	*87*	34	36	*40*	*40*
Value of Building Permits								
Residential building	4,728,223	5,289,830	*5,712,142*	*5,629,897*	2,366,000	5,365,000	*3,473,893*	*3,483,815*
Commercial & Industrial	7,816,583	5,108,378	*6,391,158*	*6,303,923*	8,255,050	1,954,500	*3,341,604*	*3,398,274*
New Car/Truck Sales								
Total New Cars	799	897	*1,068*	*1,065*	473	424	*548*	*551*
Total New Trucks	358	354	*490*	*491*	245	274	*340*	*344*
	Jan 86	*Feb 86*	*Mar 86*	*Apr 86*	*Jan 86*	*Feb 86*	*Mar 86*	*Apr 86*
• Gas Activity •								
Gas Activity Report (MCF)								
Field Intake	13,288,177	12,678,115	*12,290,107*	*12,037,546*	881,619	846,734	*830,882*	*824,956*
Pipeline & Other Intake	2,134,999	1,740,917	*1,282,937*	*1,231,639*	22,758	20,544	*18,631*	*16,961*
Sales to Pipelines	13,012,030	12,143,741	*11,630,625*	*11,318,930*	32,720	26,464	*22,132*	*18,965*

Unemployment Rate

Shreveport



Monroe

Local Sales Tax Collections

• Cities & Towns	Jan 86	Feb 86	Mar 86
Abbeville	111,358	79,249	*70,657*
Abita Springs	2,890	na	*na*
Albany	12,267	na	*na*
Alexandria	608,262	425,634	*381,304*
Amite	81,293	59,821	*59,238*
Angie	2,606	1,277	*1,770*
Arcadia	27,395	14,917	*21,918*
Arnaudville	17,001	12,144	*11,453*
Baker	144,234	108,422	*102,966*
Basile	9,295	6,198	*7,504*
Bastrop	186,944	135,643	*121,807*
Benton	na	na	*na*
Bernice	9,950	6,554	*8,175*
Bogalusa	343,723	399,704	*230,597*
Bonita	682	720	*na*
Bossier	777,895	502,465	*510,178*
Breaux Bridge	45,683	40,385	*30,902*
Broussard	36,203	37,622	*29,172*
Bunkie	48,368	47,253	*34,623*
Campti	na	na	*na*
Cankton	553	548	*760*
Carencro	25,682	26,886	*27,084*
Church Point	20,320	16,165	*17,476*
Colfax	14,523	11,188	*11,585*
Columbia	8,808	7,716	*na*
Cottonport	7,522	5,408	*6,848*
Cotton Valley	2,520	1,900	*na*
Coushatta	26,889	na	*na*
Covington	239,680	165,081	*151,369*
Crowley	204,399	151,004	*146,044*
Cullen	3,626	2,795	*2,643*
Delcambre	9,596	4,413	*6,707*
Delhi	9,940	8,846	*9,075*
Delta	843	195	*153*
Denham Springs	122,841	87,318	*116,975*
DeQuincy	50,302	30,740	*30,118*
DeRidder	108,981	73,757	*73,827*
Dixie Inn	6,321	4,744	*2,653*
Donaldsonville	84,940	52,054	*49,486*
Dubach	2,401	2,839	*1,737*
Duson	14,013	14,815	*12,172*
Elizabeth	1,073	1,336	*1,403*
Elton	4,635	4,574	*2,298*
Erath	11,663	6,899	*9,687*
Estherwood	929	850	*859*
Eunice	135,426	127,546	*142,970*
Farmerville	30,939	25,727	*21,334*
Ferriday	na	na	*na*
Florien (estimated)	978	426	*3,013*
Folsom	6,331	3,920	*3,734*
Franklinton	40,132	32,380	*32,439*
Gibsland	1,845	2,567	*1,439*
Gilbert	1,133	1,411	*513*
Glenmora	5,880	3,532	*3,555*
Gold Meadow	5,653	17,844	*12,029*
Gonzales	137,956	91,761	*97,578*
Grambling	6,188	na	*na*
Gramercy	21,099	14,843	*14,890*
Grand Coteau	2,140	2,011	*2,595*
Greensburg	3,505	3,068	*na*

• Cities & Towns	Jan 86	Feb 86	Mar 86
Gueydan	7,896	7,194	*6,979*
Hall Summit	600	374	*na*
Hammond	534,471	319,641	*323,913*
Haughton	5,890	4,252	*5,352*
Haynesville	19,715	17,981	*11,958*
Henderson	3,730	2,614	*9,744*
Hodge	na	na	*na*
Homer	40,207	32,777	*42,701*
Independence	21,850	13,203	*10,719*
Iota	4,104	3,645	*3,565*
Iowa	6,424	5,130	*4,378*
Jeanerette	40,168	29,073	*29,231*
Jennings	95,371	70,336	*74,622*
Jonesbnoro	82,888	58,699	*na*
Kaplan	33,467	21,077	*19,310*
Kentwood	43,735	23,006	*25,003*
Kinder	19,369	16,328	*16,777*
Krotz Springs	5,027	1,504	*1,504*
Lafayette	2,588,423	1,878,777	*1,681,768*
Lake Arthur	26,648	19,491	*23,001*
Lake Charles	na	na	*na*
Lake Providence	19,037	13,493	*13,138*
Leesville	81,832	76,320	*92,813*
Livingston	15,226	8,253	*7,355*
Lockport	na	na	*na*
Logansport	na	na	*na*
Loreauville	3,763	4,347	*4,169*
Lutcher	10,827	10,219	*8,301*
Madisonville	3,291	2,027	*na*
Mamou	17,436	12,996	*14,224*
Mandeville	106,674	75,807	*70,030*
Mangham	2,228	1,223	*1,225*
Mansfield	62,730	29,410	*34,047*
Many	49,401	39,536	*33,411*
Marksville	58,211	48,331	*48,409*
Maurice	4,260	3,020	*3,360*
Melville	4,086	3,686	*3,384*
Mermentau	973	759	*835*
Mer Rouge	5,489	3,289	*2,758*
Merryville	2,340	2,983	*2,975*
Minden	229,919	143,238	*174,827*
Monroe	1,771,135	1,059,278	*1,012,285*
Mooringsport	1,033	1,547	*2,109*
Moreauville	1,845	2,182	*2,594*
Morgan City	61,845	44,234	*43,554*
Morganza	na	na	*na*
Morse	1,296	1,300	*na*
Napoleonville	8,966	4,600	*3,702*
Natchitoches	285,691	201,216	*182,658*
New Iberia	470,872	304,763	*284,425*
New Llano	4,606	6,456	*4,060*
New Orleans	8,653,228	7,179,161	*6,783,899*
New Orleans RTA	na	na	*na*
New Roads	44,387	31,167	*34,446*
Oakdale	46,492	33,595	*34,274*
Oak Grove	26,811	18,131	*16,417*
Oberline	5,115	5,016	*4,857*
Oil City	13,415	12,428	*10,024*
Opelousas	285,520	208,699	*193,555*
Parks	3,592	3,268	*4,258*

Local Sales Tax Collections

• Cities & Towns	Jan 86	Feb 86	Mar 86
Pearl River	7,275	4,084	*6,083*
Pine Prairie	na	na	*na*
Pineville	108,883	83,384	*81,940*
Plain Dealing	9,416	5,708	*5,455*
Plaucheville	540	607	*522*
Plasant Hill	na	na	*na*
Pollock	1,378	1,218	*874*
Ponchatoula	82,155	53,369	*56,720*
Port Allen	na	na	*na*
Port Barre	4,488	8,802	*na*
Rayne	77,677	55,229	*51,705*
Rayville	56,709	38,016	*34,969*
Richmond	1,876	1,462	*1,337*
Ringgold	na	na	*na*
Roseland	7,407	1,059	*4,246*
Rosepine	2,105	2,265	*5,924*
Sarepta	1,505	1,292	*1,725*
Scott	74,247	62,795	*61,242*
Shreveport	3,761,148	3,053,062	*2,739,184*
Sibley	1,628	831	*1,258*
Simmesport	6,888	6,733	*na*
Slidell	309,090	218,560	*209,927*
Sorrento	4,637	2,327	*2,357*
Springfield	4,450	3,522	*3,454*
Springhill	60,084	40,254	*35,298*
St Francisville	23,023	16,704	*19,048*
St Martinville	38,970	27,449	*27,177*
Sterlington	3,532	3,169	*na*
Sulphur	265,399	225,324	*211,921*
Sun	na	920	*670*
Sunset	6,605	7,991	*7,991*
Tallulah	na	na	*na*
Tangipahoa	2,188	2,282	*2,623*
Thibodaux	272,293	204,079	*196,733*
Tickfaw	1,842	1,724	*948*
Vidalia	na	na	*na*
Ville Platte	104,751	64,824	*74,671*
Vinton	23,448	23,845	*20,203*
Vivian	29,893	25,944	*28,572*
Walker	10,853	5,624	*16,828*
Washington	4,012	3,489	*2,659*
Welsh	13,201	13,309	*14,626*
West Monroe	330,051	235,446	*226,815*
Westlake	53,928	49,298	*46,298*
Winnsboro	59,873	39,178	*36,424*
Wisner	7,957	3,937	*4,733*
Youngsville	9,543	11,333	*10,087*
Zachary	134,374	137,346	*90,004*

• School Boards	Jan 86	Feb 86	Mar 86
Acadia	303,505	222,419	*200,069*
Allen	173,758	83,436	*90,352*
Ascension	1,012,837	803,784	*na*
Assumption	166,559	135,564	*131,715*
Avoyelles	210,102	171,689	*171,897*
Beauregard	208,154	148,542	*152,387*
Bienville	55,688	na	*na*
Bogalusa	112,086	86,086	*96,299*
Bossier	954,015	644,619	*577,595*
Caddo	3,180,789	2,616,968	*2,330,083*
Calcasieu	1,513,816	1,170,571	*1,174,088*
Caldwell	na	na	*na*
Catahoula	50,689	36,946	*32,965*
Claiborne	93,339	78,161	*66,716*
Concordia	na	na	*na*
Desoto	192,549	95,678	*82,548*
E Baton Rouge	2,871,043	2,707,777	*na*
E Carroll	na	na	*na*
E Feliciana	na	na	*na*
Evangeline	240,174	177,163	*169,429*
Franklin	266,107	126,905	*147,475*
Grant	37,553	29,933	*27,855*
Iberia	798,275	835,915	*906,092*
Iberville	292,228	242,269	*239,262*
Jackson	135,400	119,927	*na*
Jefferson Davis	212,517	129,651	*150,101*
Jefferson	6,628,558	4,824,313	*4,483,428*
Lafayette	1,773,304	1,381,216	*1,262,538*
Lafourche	558,314	445,933	*473,535*
Lasalle	128,921	72,832	*58,211*
Lincoln	164,881	169,225	*207,994*
Livingston	640,837	465,166	*500,606*
Madison	71,000	68,000	*56,000*
Monroe	232,964	158,944	*152,832*
Morehouse	173,430	126,752	*93,043*
Natchitoches	265,949	160,764	*109,020*
Orleans	5,279,497	4,062,195	*3,974,091*
Ouachita	380,099	259,330	*249,358*
Plaquemine	279,390	272,925	*na*
Pointe Coupee	88,615	57,791	*56,869*
Red River	44,518	37,438	*45,202*
Richland	110,882	92,368	*125,890*
Sabine	129,773	99,154	*94,957*
St Bernard	493,864	497,900	*na*
St Charles	634,470	644,199	*2,333,203*
St Helena	27,031	12,491	*22,639*
St James	328,009	280,759	*276,014*
St John	645,689	476,413	*601,834*
St Landry	433,641	446,761	*292,287*
St Martin	518,289	306,347	*282,982*
St Mary	597,295	377,883	*368,638*
St Tammany	1,495,318	1,718,293	*1,296,128*
Tangipahoa	989,950	684,813	*na*
Tensas	25,678	20,473	*20,202*
Terrebonne	917,868	526,033	*500,795*
Union	93,860	65,346	*60,565*
Vermillion	280,177	na	*na*
Vernon	213,127	168,614	*145,727*
Washington	152,024	188,070	*152,502*
Webster	254,004	188,778	*181,020*
W Baton Rouge	159,490	116,150	*101,060*
W Carroll	63,956	27,189	*43,397*
W Feliciana	384,124	na	*na*
Winn	94,479	99,831	*69,762*

State Sales Tax Collections

• Commodities	Dec 85	Jan 86	Feb 86
Grocery Stores	3,238,757	3,763,927	3,077,779
Fruit & Vegetable Sto	108,242	117,925	115,795
Meat & Seafood Stores	359,334	392,281	370,473
Restaurants & Cafes	3,332,474	3,287,862	3,527,312
Saloons, Bars, Packag	2,959,580	3,769,512	2,534,621
Dairy, Egg, Poultry	163,156	198,373	157,385
Bakeries	85,256	75,084	98,178
Chain Stores (Food)	1,000,897	573,692	678,317
Other Food	1,889,974	1,920,918	1,625,639
Men & Boy's Clothing	315,754	637,209	312,418
Women's Ready to Wear	792,349	1,264,319	685,815
Millinery	731,572	1,344,079	426,626
Shoe Stores	613,076	1,283,821	618,949
Salvage Clothing	5,110	10,555	6,390
Children's Clothing	66,064	90,794	49,614
Chain Stores (Clothin	56,425	110,151	33,411
Other Apparel	945,000	1,841,086	894,444
Department Stores	4,044,481	4,087,668	4,651,340
Country & Farm Stores	6,690	16,551	7,016
Variety Stores	2,777,338	5,013,431	2,066,435
Drug Stores	1,228,935	2,320,903	1,362,040
Jewelry, Leather,Spor	1,225,981	2,930,537	1,085,561
Feed & Seed	215,466	183,648	205,035
Hardware Stores	1,197,201	1,510,065	1,149,044
Farm Implement Dealer	590,894	528,331	501,844
Chain Stores (General	2,757,535	3,762,640	1,604,482
Other General Merchan	1,314,877	2,040,116	1,178,232
Motor Vehicle Dealers	927,739	1,041,547	1,023,331
Auto Parts, Tires	2,315,921	2,324,063	2,142,623
Service Stations	1,197,316	4,353,830	903,165
Garages, Repair Shops	954,391	1,191,542	999,188
Diesel Fuel, Fuel Oil	69,204	87,793	28,407
Marine Supplies	91,324	155,313	123,129
Motor Boats	83,560	97,935	76,810
Aircraft	44,791	36,728	90,950
Chain Stores (Auto)	749,985	791,238	663,161
Other Automotive	101,025	129,796	83,755
Furniture Stores	1,049,525	1,016,441	826,806
Electric & Gas Appare	1,607,514	2,230,781	1,344,302
Butane Dealer	760,564	868,156	762,984
Store, Office Furnitu	1,354,185	2,269,431	1,291,545
Hotel, Restaurant Sup	176,201	411,545	277,214
Awnings, Blinds, Upho	279,207	424,501	342,482
Dental, Medical Suppl	398,012	553,473	456,859
Safes, Locks	43,418	50,204	62,412
Chain Stores (Furnitu	143	1,834	444
Other Furniture	349,149	413,891	328,014
Bldg Contractors, Con	153,039	332,283	173,209
Lumber, Paint, Wallpa	3,938,249	4,023,001	3,617,158
Electric, Plumbing, E	3,730,696	3,123,553	2,855,851
Oil Well Equipment	2,629,070	2,936,657	2,946,450
Contractors (Elect)	240,640	306,668	215,369
Contractors (Paint)	22,916	21,731	14,930
Contractors (Roofing)	36,255	158,024	25,209
Trucks, Dragline, Etc	1,348,765	1,746,796	1,804,479
Chain Stores (Lumber)	0	0	0
Other Contractors	455,115	373,383	334,148
Hotels, Motels, Etc.	1,279,383	1,459,260	1,407,031
Leasing, Renting	2,666,518	3,461,063	2,747,863
Bowling, Billiards	20,690	22,917	21,943
Laundry, Tailoring	395,040	446,361	461,603
Newspapers, Printing	914,597	913,733	830,038
Cotton Gins, Etc.	2,235	1,843	2,485
Warehouses	16,944	72,052	30,886
Shoe Repair, Shine	18,951	30,777	18,038
Machine Shops, Weldin	633,588	825,749	731,973
Other Service Groups	636,991	643,622	729,162
Beverage Bottlers	506,677	517,307	498,727
Sugar Refineries	4,130	2,587	2,742
Petroleum, Natural Ga	181,029	223,410	115,444

• Commodities	Dec 85	Jan 86	Feb 86
Petroleum Refineries	606,192	364,995	388,803
Sawmills, Sash & Door	20,747	25,610	24,504
Sand & Gravel	291,718	263,945	250,166
Rice Mills	1,412	13,090	761
Cotton Seed Oil	3,430	4,632	2,604
Ice Manufacture	16,675	12,071	12,726
Other Manufacturers	5,403,668	6,485,791	6,505,246
Railroads	0	26	0
Bus Lines, Etc.	245	906	10
Pullman, Tank Cars	0	0	0
Trucking,Freight, Etc	534	-140	1,431
Fire Protection	27,815	31,059	30,763
Pipelines	259	2,891	178
Light, Power, gas	81,249	76,456	86,102
Telephone, Telegraph	36,441	44,978	29,403
Other Utilities	40,341	69,996	62,362
Book Stores, Etc.	377,681	564,264	557,646
Itinerant Vendors	6,518	9,528	7,156
Piano, Musical Instru	367,647	493,725	287,181
Iron, Sheet Metal, Et	45,279	82,188	52,335
Photo Studios	293,427	377,605	283,917
Cigar Stores, News	601,423	676,326	643,174
Florists, Nurseries	236,528	421,522	242,938
Funerals Parlors	157,074	170,215	174,481
Fishing Bait	137,650	160,947	159,715
Miscellaneous	8,114,258	12,383,174	8,549,678
Common Carriers	297,087	325,384	285,897
Others	104,395	81,687	94,981
Total Sales Tax	81,676,803	106,311,168	79,170,672

Local Sales Tax Collections

• Police Juries	Jan 86	Feb 86	Mar 86
Acadia	300,531	222,420	200,071
Ascension	303,904	271,803	206,754
Assumption	67,811	64,857	na
Caldwell	na	na	na
Catahoula	na	na	na
Claiborne	18,149	14,378	15,667
Concordia	na	na	na
E Baton Rouge	6,822,846	5,156,439	5,021,517
Iberville	292,241	242,268	239,261
Jefferson	10,562,893	7,597,022	7,047,422
Lafayette	286,810	265,593	251,859
Lafourche	200,872	159,504	177,904
Lincoln	123,661	126,941	155,995
Madison	15,068	21,920	na
Morehouse	83,792	61,677	46,329
Ouachita	276,076	230,552	231,541
Plaquemine	279,290	272,925	na
Pointe Coupee	101,471	74,031	68,867
Rapides	983,859	736,751	686,141
Red River	44,533	35,146	43,525
St Bernard	493,864	497,900	na
St Charles	315,547	313,555	1,097,914
St Helena	26,393	17,202	na
St James	131,443	115,057	114,379
St Mary	1,100,220	696,052	677,933
St Mary	49,499	32,005	30,369
St Mary	36,570	27,064	24,805
Tensas	20,923	17,074	17,846
Terrebonne	1,529,779	876,722	834,659
Vermillion	280,183	na	na
Webster	123,947	92,172	90,395
W Ascension	39,381	27,403	25,869
W Baton Rouge	159,500	116,150	101,060

If you are interested in receiving historical data, the Division of Business Research has recently compiled this data by metropolitan area and by parish. Each page includes 12 months of data and 70 entries, and costs $5.00. Please write or call and tell us which series you are interested in. The years the data are available will vary; the earliest available year is the one shown below.

Employment & Wage Statistics - 1979*
Retail Trade - 1980 (State, NO, BR)
Revenue Collection - 1976*
Construction - 1980*
Number of Building Permits - 1983*
Value of Building Permits - 1983*
General Business Activity - 1980 (State)
Fuel Consumption - 1980 (State)
Crude Petroleum Production - 1981 (State)
LOOP Inc Activity - 1983 (State)
Drilling Rigs - 1976 (State)
Gas Activity - 1984 (State, NO, LF, LC, SH, MO, HO)
State Employee Retirement - 1981 (State)
New Car Sales - 1983*
New Truck Sales - 1983*
Port Activity - 1976 (NO, BR, LC)
Airport Activity - 1976 (NO, BR, LF, LC, AL, SH, MO)
*The following data is available for Louisiana State and the eight Metropolitan Areas

Motor Vehicles Sales Tax - 1983
Highway Construction Contracts - 1983
Beer - 1976
- Total Cases Sold
- Total Taxed Amount

Vital Statistics - 1982
- Births
- Deaths

Unemployment Benefits - 1984
- Regular
- Federal
- Ex-Servicemen

Number of Unemployed - 1984
- Regular
- Federal
- Ex-Servicemen

The following data are available by parish:
State Sales Tax - 1980
Local Sales Tax - 1976
- Cities & Towns
- Police Jury
- School Board

Total Severance Tax - 1976
Total Oil Tax - 1976
Gas Severance Tax - 1976
Minimum Royalty - 1980

All Welfare Activity data and other related data are being reviewed and are not available.

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Division of Business Research
College of Business Administration
Louisiana State University
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